

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION



April 26, 2010

Senator Martin M. Looney
Representative Robert W. Megna
State of Connecticut
General Assembly
State Capitol
Hartford, Connecticut 06106-1591

Dear Senator Looney and Representative Megna:

Here is an update regarding your inquiry concerning water fowl hunting along the Quinnipiac River in the area between the Middletown Avenue Bridge and the mouth of New Haven harbor, and your request to ban hunting between these two landmarks.

A Hunting Review Team has completed an on-site assessment of the area, including the locations and distances between residences, businesses, the Fargeorge Preserve, and other public infrastructure. Based on this assessment and in concert with CGS Section 26-67c, the Team has recommended the closure of a portion of the area to waterfowl hunting. The closure recommendation is based upon concern that the physical characteristics of this area present an unreasonable risk that hunters may violate hunting regulations. Specifically, the area intended to be closed includes the shores and waters of the Quinnipiac River from a line extending from the southernmost tip of Fargeorge Preserve (Granis Island) at the mouth of Hemingway Creek (eastern shore), diagonally to Lombard Street (western shore) downstream to the Route 1/Amtrak Bridge. I have enclosed a map of the area for your reference.

To implement such a closure will require promulgating an amendment to Section 26-66-4 of the Regulations of Connecticut Agencies. Please note that while the Department will start that regulatory process this spring, the process is unlikely to be finalized before the start of the 2010 waterfowl hunting season. While the closure proposal is pending, the Department's Environmental Conservation Police will occasionally patrol the area to enforce compliance with hunting regulations.

I would be happy to meet with you if you would like to discuss this matter. Thank you for bringing this important issue to our attention.

Yours truly,

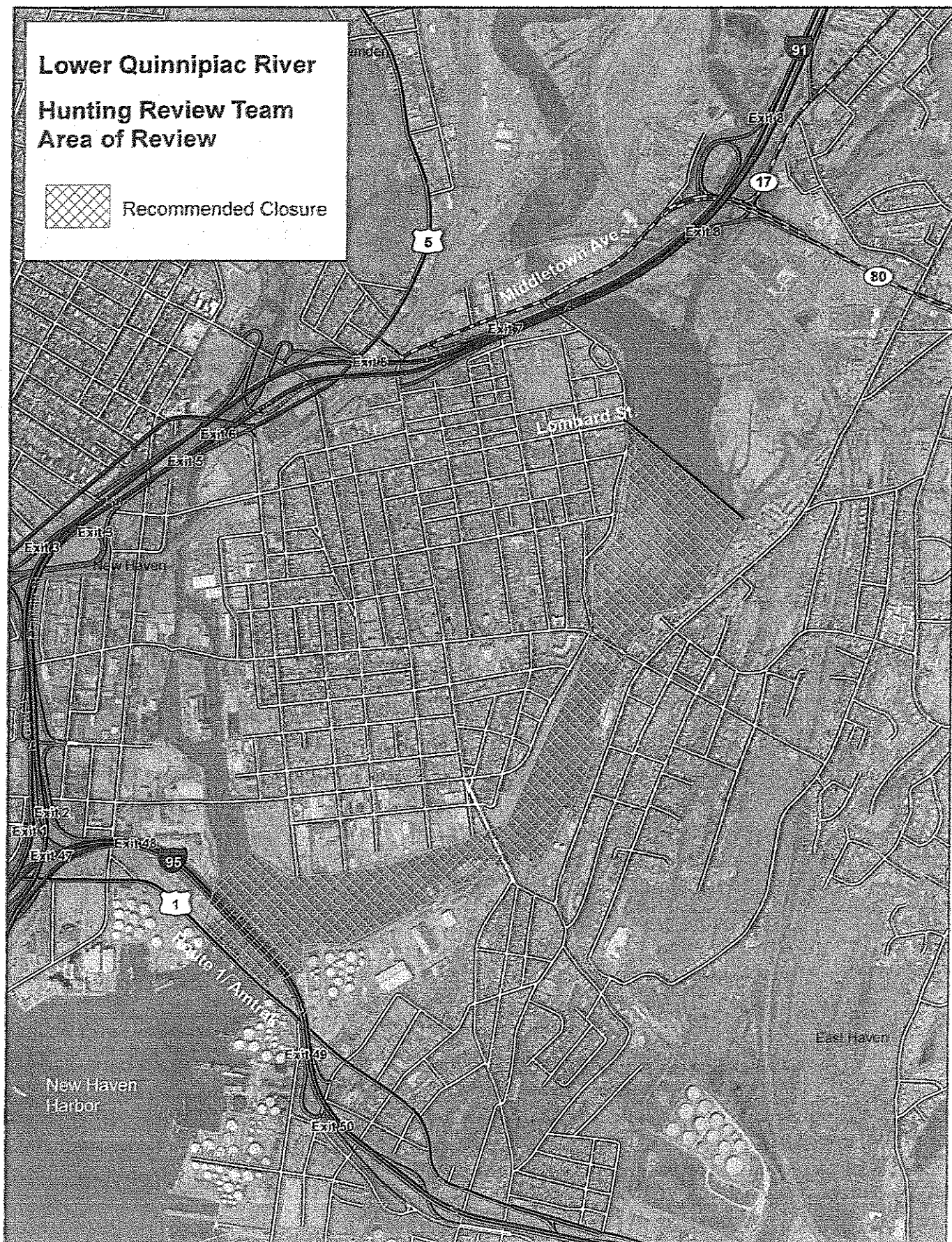
Amey W. Marrella
Commissioner

cc: Edward and Diane Schwartz
enc.

**Lower Quinnipiac River
Hunting Review Team
Area of Review**



Recommended Closure



Lower Quinnipiac River
Hunting Review Team
Closure Boundary Detail



Recommended Closure

